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A.—(a) & (b).

Name of the institution with maternity ward where sisters are employed.	Number of sisters employed.	
	Qualified as midwives.	Not qualified as midwives.
Headquarters Hospital, Cuddalore ..	4	..
Do. Masulipatam. ..	..	* 6
Do. Trichinopoly. ..	1	..
Do. Guntur ..	† 2	† 2
Do. Vizagapatam. ..	1	6
Do. Tuticorin ..	..	2
Do. Kodaikanal. ..	..	1
Do. Madura ..	..	3

* Undergone training in midwifery in Switzerland. But they do not possess separate diplomas as qualified midwives.

† The sisters have since resigned.

(c) Sisters who are not qualified as midwives are not ordinarily permitted to conduct labour cases. Owing, however, to the unavoidable absence of the qualified midwives 5 out of 134 cases were conducted by sisters in the Headquarter Hospital at Masulipatam.

(d) Qualified Indian midwives are not made to work under unqualified sisters.

[Note.—An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.]

II.—ACT ASSENTED TO BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.

The Hon.⁹ the PRESIDENT:—“ I have to announce that the Madras Town-Planning (Amendment) Act, 1934, received the assent of His Excellency the Governor on the 13th March 1934.”

III.—VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS FOR 1934-35.

DEMAND XVII—EDUCATION—TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“ The discussion on Demand No. XVII will be resumed. Mr. Pannirselvam will continue his speech on the cut motion of Mr. Sreshta.”

* Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—“ Sir, I was trying to point out last evening how co-education of boys and girls had in itself nothing to recommend it, how it was an importation from the West, an unwanted and unwelcome importation, and how such co-education was unsuited to the genius, the tradition and the sentiment of the Indian people. I also pointed out how personally I had no objection to co-education being tolerated, only tolerated, in the case of younger children provided that such co-education is confined to schools under exclusively women management. I also wished to make it clear how

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the position of the numerous convent schools would be seriously affected if this co-education policy was to be given full scope, and how if that policy was to be adopted, special provision should be made to see that convent schools run by nuns are not brought within the scheme.

“ Another point which it seems to me has been completely ignored by the Champion Scheme is about the schools of a denominational character which might be brought into existence in the future. How are they to be fitted in into this scheme? On that point, the report itself is completely silent and nothing so far has been done. Talking of schools which might be brought into existence in the future, I may make mention of a very well-conducted and very efficient higher elementary school for girls in Tanjore town, conducted by European sisters, which has for the last two years been trying to get itself converted into a secondary school, to meet the needs of the girls passing out of the higher elementary standard who have either to give up their education altogether or to go to a distant place like Trichinopoly. Quite recently, the Secondary Education Board, backed up by the recommendations of the various educational authorities, sent up a proposal for the conversion of that higher elementary school into a secondary school; but unfortunately the Director's office turned it down on the score that in the same town there was another girls' secondary school under the Evangelic Lutheran Mission management, though that school is in a different part of the town altogether, the school proposed to be converted into a secondary school being situated in almost the outskirts of the town, in a place where the Catholic population is most concentrated, a school which caters not merely to the Catholics but to several well-to-do Hindu families located in that part of the town.

“ I should also like to say a few words, Sir, before I conclude, about the representation of the Indian Christians and the treatment which they have received, in the matter of the services, at the hands of the Education Minister. Sir, the Hon. the Minister for Education has been known to have been one of the more prominent members of the Justice Party from its very inception. He was considered one of the staunchest followers of that party till he was elevated to the Treasury Bench. In fact, Sir, there was an occasion when he was thought to be such an eminent member of the party that we all unhesitatingly elected him to the Presidentship of that memorable Confederation held at Coimbatore. It does seem to me to be really tragical that I have to complain because of the treatment which the Indian Christian community has come for at his hands. I wonder, Sir, if, in the atmosphere in which he finds himself to-day, he is either not able to do justice to the community, or he is blind to their existence itself. The other day, in reply to a question of mine as to whether any Indian Christian had been recommended by the Law College council for appointment as lecturer in that College, the Hon. the Minister stated that the report was confidential and that public interests would suffer by the names of the candidates recommended

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being given out. But we all know, and he knows that we all do know, that an Indian Christian had been recommended, and that out of the 12 names recommended, there was only one Indian Christian. But that Indian Christian had the highest legal distinction which one could desire; he was a doctor in law of the London University. Sir, the other day during the course of the debate on the Madras Services Commission report, the Hon. the Minister for Education laid great store by academic qualifications. He claimed to have done nothing but justice, when he disregarded the recommendation of the Services Commission, because the candidate chosen by him had a higher technical and academical qualification. Why then did he disregard the name of the only Indian Christian who was recommended by the Law College Council, who had the highest distinction available in the legal line, the LL.D. of the London University? The two cases are parallel only in this respect that the recommendations have in both cases been disregarded.

“Again, Sir, to a series of interpellations regarding the representation of the Christians on the College Selection Committees, he told us that for not a single institution under his management for which selection committees had been constituted, has he thought fit to appoint or nominate a Christian. That is a point which I do not want to say very much about, because he gave us an assurance that in the future constitution of these bodies, he would consider the claims of Indian Christians. I only hope that when the day comes, he will remember the promise he has made. I would also request him to make the promise applicable not merely to nominations to selection committees, but as a promise to give due recognition to the existence of the Indian Christian community.

“Let me conclude, Sir, with the hope that at least the Hon. the Minister for Education will not consider the Indian Christian community or the Catholic community to be a ‘wretched’ community consisting of a negligible and contemptible minority in this province.”

* Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—“Mr. President, Sir, I had no intention of taking part in the Education Debate to begin with; but the Champion Scheme has come in for such criticism from members representing the minority communities, that I think it is due on my part, considering that Mr. Champion was appointed in my time to report on the consolidation of schools and the best way in which money could be spent for encouraging elementary education in this province, to say a few words. ,

“The Government laid it down as a policy at the time and I believe it is being followed also that a vast amount of money was being spent both on secondary and university education and the elementary education part of it was being neglected for want of funds. The Government felt at the time that it was necessary to find some method by which, with the amount available with the Government, the best use could be made of it to make elementary education, if not

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compulsory, at least practicable in as large an area as possible. Mr. Statham first investigated this matter; but the Government of India took him away and Mr. Champion took his place. Mr. Champion worked at this and eventually submitted his report by which he thought that, if these small schools were got rid of and central schools were established in certain places, it might be possible for funds to be utilized in such a manner as to make elementary education not only a proposition but a fact by which a large number of children could be educated at least up to the fourth standard. I know my friends, especially of the Catholic community, complain that they have to give a religious basis to their education and that, if their children are sent to schools which are not Catholic, the very fundamentals of their religion would be attacked. To that, my answer is this; and I gave it also when I had the honour of holding the portfolio of Education. The State funds are limited. The State funds come from the general taxpayer and the convenience of the general taxpayer must take precedence over others (Hear, hear). I do not mean to say by this that we are going to neglect the education of the Catholic community. But at the same time, if the Catholic community want a particular type of education, then they must be prepared to pay for it (Hear, hear), for the simple reason that they cannot expect the general taxpayer to pay for the convenience that they desire. And that is the fundamental of the Champion report. I am sure that my friends of the Catholic community realize it. In spite of the best will in the world, it will not be possible for any Government, be it even a Catholic Government, to neglect the wishes of a large majority of the population who stand for compulsory elementary education, so that the future electorate may be able to decide the question of their representation in any legislative body that may come into being in this country with their eyes open. I entirely sympathise with my Catholic friends when they ask that separate denominational schools should be established. But I should make this reservation with regard to that. The State will be willing to help such Catholic schools to be established and will make as much grant as is possible. The fundamental proposition is that the convenience of the majority of the population who pay the taxes should be catered to first. This does not mean that the Government should not step in and help Catholic schools. I do feel that in the interests of minorities such help should be given; but such help is bound to be limited to the funds that is available with the Government. At the same time, if India is to become a Nation to-morrow, it is but right that all children, belonging to whatever community, should be educated in common schools. (Hear, hear.) Common schools will lead to common understanding, common ideals and common causes; and if you are going to bring up your children in water-tight compartments even from the very inception stage of education, I am afraid that all this tall talk of an Indian Nation may come to an end. I would plead with my friends of the minority communities, that taking care of their interests, they should have this ideal before them and that is a united Nation for India in

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the future. This will not be possible if every community is going to demand that it should be educated in separate schools of its own. I do not intend to say this to my Catholic friends alone; I say it also to my Muslim friends sitting behind me. (Hear, hear.) Day after day, I hear them saying that there are not enough Muslims in the Police department, that there are not enough Muslims in the Education department, there are not enough Muslims in the Revenue Department. Why not? They are not there because they do not come up to the standard of qualifications laid down for Government service. If two candidates, one belonging to the Muslim community and the other to the Hindu community, came for appointment and if I had anything to do with the appointment and if all things were equal, I should certainly prefer the Muslim to the Hindu candidate for the simple reason that we want to help the minority community. We must keep this fundamental principle before us that these minority representations could only be made if all things are equal. I do not think that the service of the State should suffer for a moment simply because a minority community is to be represented. (Hear, hear.) We must take into consideration the question of qualifications, whether the person selected would be such as would fittingly fill the job which is to be undertaken by him. My hon. Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, talked of Christians not being properly represented in the Educational Service. I should tell him that in my own time Christians were appointed whenever they were found fit."

Rao Bahadur A. T. PANNIRSELVAM:—"Mr. President, Sir, I did not say anything about the representation in the Services as such. I was speaking of the treatment of the Indian Christians were having at the hands of the Hon. the Minister."

Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN:—"I think the Hon. Minister will take care of himself and I do not want to press this point any further. But I only want to say this, that, if Christians with proper education were available, they did get their chance in the Education department. The present Professor of Economics in the Presidency College, Dr. Kallukaran, was appointed over the heads of many Hindus, because I felt that he was the best qualified man for the job and I am sure the Hon. Minister for Education has got the same policy before him. If a particular Christian gentleman was not appointed to the Law College, I am sure he would have very good reasons for not doing so.

"Mr. President, so much for the Champion Scheme. I would like to address a word to the Hon. Minister on the question of medical inspection. Medical inspection of schools has been given up for want of funds; but at the same time the Government are carrying on medical inspection in their colleges because the Syndicate of the University of Madras insist that there should be medical inspection if affiliation is to be granted. It is important that in schools there should be medical inspection rather in colleges because it would be easier to cure an ailment in a very early stage rather than when the person afflicted becomes an adult. The Hon. Minister will bear this in mind and see in what way medical inspection of schools could be provided for.

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“ My friends of the depressed classes, I believe, feel that the abolition of Labour schools has led to the stagnation of education in their case. I know it is a point in which they have a certain amount of grievance. I am sure that the Hon. Minister is as keen as they are that the community should have the best chance they can have in the matter of education. But at the same time I would like to point out to the Hon. Minister that it is time that the Government Order, by which local bodies or private aided institutions were refused grant if they refused to allow a particular community into their schools, should be strictly enforced. I think it is a fundamental principle that if we are to really advance in the matter of education, such class consciousness as exist in the matter of local schools or in aided schools should be put down with a strong hand. Only when that is done will the minorities feel that their interests are safe in the hands of the majority community. I am sure the Hon. Minister will take note of the warning that has been given by my hon. Friends belonging to the depressed classes which I reiterate with equal emphasis now.

“ Mr. President, the time is getting short; and I am afraid I have got another engagement. I hope that the Hon. Minister will not give in to the clamour of those minorities with regard to the Champion Scheme (Hear, hear) for the simple reason that it is a scheme which will redound to the benefit of a vast majority of this Province and after all the benefit of the majority ought to be the main principle of a State. I am a Benthamite enough to believe that the greatest good of the greatest number ought to be the ideal of the State.”

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“ Mr. President, Sir, I feel diffident to raise my voice after the vigorous defence of the scheme by the hon. Member, Dr. Subbarayan. The time at my disposal is very short and I do not propose to enter into a critical review of the various stages of educational policy of this Government. I only want to raise a few question so that the Hon. Minister may enlighten us as to the progress that has been made in various directions. It is with a view to elicit information that I raise the following points and I hope that he will answer each one of them definitely and unequivocally so that it may allay suspicion and apprehension in the minds not only of the Members of this House but also of the people outside.

“ Before I enter into this question, I would say that I entirely agree with the speech of the Leader of the Opposition in regard to communal representation. The principle of communal representation in order to protect the interests of minorities and other unrepresented communities has been acknowledged by this House and by the public. Where there are two candidates of equal qualifications, the one belonging to an already represented community and the other to an unrepresented community, the one belonging to the unrepresented community will be preferred. That is the principle guiding appointments to services by the Government. When that has been accepted by the party and the Government, I do not find the need for the unnecessary waste of energy on the part of the previous speaker (Dr. Subbarayan)

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when he reiterated and re-emphasized an already acknowledged principle. I must strongly condemn preference to persons with less qualifications and efficiency; but temporary support should be given to the unrepresented community so that the community may come up, gradually. I do not think that my hon. Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, demurs to this proposition at all. Sir, Mr. Pannirselvam has been making a special representation in regard to particular individual cases and not to a general principle. Whether the individual case is justifiable or not on this principle, is a matter that is left to the Government and I am sure the Hon. the Minister will reply to him whatever he has got to say on the question. But this House, within the last few days during the discussions on the Budget, has been worried and tired and may I say, that it is most disappointing that Member after Member, community after community, asking for representation that his community is not represented, that the minority community has not been represented, that any particular individual has not been taken into service and all that. If that is the kind of spirit that has been controlling and guiding hon. Members of this House, when shall we have that nationalism, that unity of spirit which should prevail, so that the coming Reforms can be successfully worked. May I with all respect submit that the scheme of the new Reforms can never be successfully worked, unless and until you bury the spirit of antagonism, bury the spirit of communalism, bury the compartmental system; and unless the spirit of nationalism, the spirit of oneness and the spirit of patriotism prevails and national problems are placed before communalism, we will never realize the successful working of the coming Provincial Autonomy.

“ With these preliminary remarks, I would like to ask the Hon. Minister to let us have information whether any steps have been taken to prepare an Elementary Education Act. The Act that we have been working has become quite out-of-date. Several attempts have been made in previous years and in fact draft Bills were prepared; special officers were appointed in order to investigate and report to the Government. I would ask the Hon. Minister, even after a period of $3\frac{1}{2}$ years or four years which will end very soon, whether the time is ripe and whether he has bestirred himself or taken any interest in order to prepare a consolidated Elementary Education Act, to place all those reports in one consolidated form and to allay the fears of the minorities or particular sections. Such a Bill would have settled all these disputes on this question and questions like Catholic, non-Catholic and denominational schools, would not have arisen if a proper Bill had been framed and put on the Legislative Council anvil for discussion. But that has not been done and it is matter for regret to me, because at the time when I was in charge of the portfolio, attempts were made to formulate these specific principles and in fact two draft Bills were prepared. The hon. Dr. Subbarayan was very vehement in championing the scheme of Mr. Champion, which I shall shortly expose how hollow it is. Even in spite of draft Bills, no serious attempt has been

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made to prepare a proper Bill and I want to know whether a Bill is now ready and available for purposes of public discussion prepared by the Hon. the Minister. It is true that a special officer was appointed. Before that, Mr. Moir, the late lamented Sir Thomas Moir, prepared a scheme; that report was very instructive in all respects and it adhered to the present principle. It is all ancient history. The Hon. Minister says ancient history is more instructive than modern history with its shallowness and inactivity. Ancient history is more educative and more educative to the Hon. Minister himself who is an ignorant person than mere flourishes; the Hon. Minister has much to learn from what the ancient history has to teach him. Sir, it is ancient history, but then there is no new history. The only new history that we have got is this report prepared by a special officer. (The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar: It is his production.) His production or your production, both are the same and there is not much to choose between the two. What have you done? What is it that this report contains? This report is mostly theoretical doctrinaire and cannot be applied to practical conditions of India and to practical conditions of rural life in India. Now, I want to know whether any particular area has been selected for making this experiment and how far it was successful during the last three years. Time after time, Government issue orders amending it or adding to it or subtracting from it, but no serious attempt has been made in any particular area to try that experiment and see whether it is practicable or not. Sir, in certain municipalities, of course, such as Coimbatore and Vizagapatam Municipalities, where owing to the personal influence, and personal interest of the Chairmen, it was possible to carry the scheme with some success. The case of municipalities is different from rural areas, it is possible to work the scheme successfully in municipalities owing to the compactness of the area. Whereas, in rural areas where schools are located, children from villages scattered at distances of 3, 4 or 5 miles apart, it will not be possible for children to attend central schools. They have therefore nothing to gain by such schools and therefore these central schools are useless unless it be they are intended to benefit the urban areas. If central schools are situated at distances of 3 or 4 miles, how are you going to bring children from the different villages to these schools? Is it not therefore a waste of energy. It is a waste of money. The present scheme has been spoken of as a wastage by the present Minister and his predecessor and by certain newspapers, because some British officer or British Educationist and I.E.S. officer who do not know anything about the social, and economic life of our rural areas, start a stunt as it is difficult for them to work the present system. Without knowing rural conditions, they come into this country—it is something like putting new wine into an old bottle without knowing that the bottle would burst—and start new ideas. They know nothing about the rural conditions of our people. But, the Minister who comes from the people ought to know better than those that it would not suit present conditions and that some better means should be adopted. It is therefore a surprise to

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me that the Minister should support this new scheme of not ancient history but modern history and that he should be enamoured of it in its application to rural areas. Take his own district of Tinnevely. Let him place his hand upon his heart and say whether in the rural areas in his district where villages are scattered over distances of 3, 4 and 5 miles this wonderful central school will work successfully. In my district of Ganjam and in Vizagapatam, this system cannot be worked in rural areas, though owing to the laudable efforts of the chairman of the municipal council, it has been efficiently worked, but even there considerable improvements are required in many directions. We have seen its working. Therefore, how is it that the new scheme can be worked in practice in the conditions of the rural areas in our Presidency. It is nearly three years since the scheme has been put into the hands of the Government and a Bill should have been prepared by this time and discussions opened, public opinion must have been collected about the wastage that has been complained of against the present system. Sir, it is said that all the money that has been spent so far is a waste. That has become the real slogan political stunt and it is not at all an educational or social problem, it is not started by an Indian educational expert, but started by certain newspapers and taken up by a few interested persons saying that the present system is a wastage. I am sorry that the Minister himself has repeated it in several places that it is wastage and wastage without any understanding and examination. Let him examine the whole case and see whether it is an improvement upon the old system or not. By this new system you are not going to help the people, their poverty, their social and economic conditions. It was therefore the Japanese method was adopted. Let every village have a school and then after consultation with the village panchayats, give charge of the whole scheme to their control and allow the panchayats to consolidate the schools. This will be a better system of education and will avoid wastage which is complained of. Avoiding that method altogether, you go and cut at the root of the expansion of elementary education and say, by concentration we can succeed and save money. For getting money, I am sure the Minister must have had several discussion with the Finance Department and I am sure he must have been able to convince the Finance Department as to the necessity of this expansion and surely he could have got through the whole scheme of expansion in five years and I do not know how far he has been successful in the matter and I should be very glad to know it from him. Let him say frankly and unequivocally.

“Then, Sir, as to compulsory education. Compulsory education was introduced in several municipalities and also in some taluk board areas. Now, I want to know from the Hon. the Minister, how far this system of compulsory education has been successful, whether it was left where it was in 1927—and what efforts have been made at expanding compulsory system of education. Or, is there any question of finance standing in the way—I cannot think that finance would be in

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the way of elementary education—for they were never in the way of expansion of elementary education. From 1920 till now the Finance Department have not stood in its way but have been giving money for the expansion of the compulsory system. But, much depends upon the energy, and personal work of the Minister himself. The Minister will have to go and talk to the Educational Council, talk to the municipal authorities, persuade them not once but even twice and more, sit there in a corner and get members to pass resolutions to carry on the scheme. It is not such an easy thing as sitting under the fan in the Secretariat and issuing mandates to the District Educational Councils and Municipal Councils asking them to introduce the compulsory system of education; but the Minister must visit several places, have discussions with the persons concerned, persuade them to adopt a proper system of education. Probably vested interests and aided institutions will be against such a proposal. Such ought to be the procedure to be followed with a view to see that people are persuaded to adopt the compulsory system. It is, of course, not an easy method. It is to be done by personal effort and not by sitting in the Secretariat and issuing orders. I do not want to go further into the details, but all that I want to say in regard to the new scheme and its application to rural areas is that it is a dismal failure.

“As regards the position of aided elementary schools, I am sorry to say that my friends of the depressed classes have ignored the great and noble work done by the Christian missions in this country, especially in Southern India. They have contributed whatever they could for the service of the people and they started first by educating the people and ameliorating their condition, and in this the missionaries have done most magnificent work. If to-day the Madras Presidency is educationally ahead of other provinces, it is because of the foundation laid by the missionary societies and the personal sacrifice of individual missionaries rendered in every district and taluk. Wherever they worked, they have worked disinterestedly and devotedly for the benefit of the people. I am sorry that my friends of the depressed classes have forgotten and ignored the work done by those missionaries.”

Rao Sahib N. SIVA RAJ:—“On a point of order, Mr. President. Not all the members but it may be a few of the members of the depressed classes, who have expressed their opinion like that.”

Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“I only speak with regard to those gentlemen that have spoken and not with reference to my hon. Friend, Mr. Siva Raj.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“He has spoken with regard to those that have already spoken.”

* Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—“Then, Sir, these aided institutions have contributed largely to the educational advancement of this Province. They should therefore be given every facility for expansion, because at present neither the local boards nor the Government is in a position to take up such work, and further elementary education

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has been completely handed over to local bodies—we also know the present financial condition of the local bodies and they are unable to spend anything—and the district educational councils also feel that it is impossible through the agency of local bodies that any expansion could be made.

“ Therefore, we have to wait and see how far the panchayats will take up this problem of education. Therefore aided agency is necessary for the extension of education in this province and they cannot be lightly treated. Then, Sir, with regard to secondary education there was a proposal that there should be reorganization of secondary schools. At present in our Presidency we have got secondary schools crowded together in one place. There are too many schools in one area and the result is a great struggle. Financially, they are not able to meet both ends. They are not able to equip themselves with necessary laboratories, playgrounds and with essentials for physical education. So a policy was introduced to have a medical inspection of the students of the institutions. I ask the Hon. the Minister to state how far the question of the organization of secondary schools has been taken up and what progress has been made in this direction. 11-45 a.m.

“ The other point is pre-vocational education. At present nothing is so more needed than vocational education. When the pupils come to the fourth form it has to be decided whether they are capable of going in for an academic or professional course. This decision has to be done in consultation with the headmasters and parents and then pre-vocational training has to be given in order to give a bias of vocation. They must be asked to work in the workshops and not feel it undignified to work. Look at the case of other countries, how the people go to the workshops to work for a small pittance for their maintenance and how in course of time they become helpful to the people and to the country. Therefore, we would like to know from the Hon. the Minister what steps have been taken in the direction of pre-vocational education which is so very necessary not only from the point of view of secondary education but for the purpose of benefiting the pupils themselves.

“ Then, as regards physical education what has been done with regard to the medical inspection that was introduced in the high schools and secondary schools? A scheme of physical educational and medical inspection was formulated as far back as 1921 and no notice is taken of this scheme of physical education or medical inspection. I regret very much that it should have been so. I wait to hear the Minister to know if he has any good explanation in regard to this matter. Dr. Subbarayan has stated that it is for the benefit of the largest number of people that education should be aimed at and that it should not be confined to particular community. Here, Sir, I again ask the Hon. Minister to consider whether it is not the elementary education which would benefit the largest number of people. The Hon. Minister is doing ‘ Sathavathanam ’ and I hope he will follow my remarks. I ask, if the modern scheme of education of the Hon.

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Minister, which is said to be modern history whether this is for the benefit of the largest number of people. Are you spending the taxpayers' money for the benefit of the largest number of people? Even in municipal areas how far have you been successful in expanding and introducing the system of compulsory education and elementary education?

“These are questions which affect the welfare of the largest number of people not only politically but socially and morally. How far Government have succeeded in all these matters, the House will wait to hear from the Hon. the Minister.”

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—“The Demand has to be put to vote at 12-20.”

* The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“Mr. President, Sir, I have heard with great profit the interesting debate that has taken place on this Demand and many valuable contributions have been made on the questions that are engaging the attention of Government or will soon engage their attention. I shall first take up the point which has perhaps been dealt with by more hon. Members in this House than any other topic. That is the Champion scheme. I mentioned very briefly at the time of my reply to the general budget discussion the position of the Government with regard to this matter. Of course, under the limitations of time that I then was placed under, I could not make any more elaborate reply than I was able to do. I am glad that I have got an opportunity of now going into somewhat greater detail than at that time. As hon. Members are aware a report which related to the consolidation and concentration of elementary schools was made in 1929 by Mr. Champion. As the hon. Member, Dr. Subbarayan, has said that report was produced at the time he was the Minister in charge of Education. The Government passed orders on that report early in 1930. They generally approved of the scheme outlined in the report and issued instructions to the various local bodies, i.e., municipal councils and taluk boards who had elementary schools under their management to prepare schemes on those lines. The Government waited for a long time in the hope that the local authorities will take an interest in this matter which is of such vital importance for the healthy development of elementary education. But they were very sadly disappointed. Very few schemes ever reached the Government at all and even such schemes as came were incomplete and were not capable of being worked out with any degree of satisfaction. The Retrenchment Committee, which considered among other matters this very large question of the Government's policy with regard to the consolidation and concentration of elementary schools, urged that the Government should take very urgent action on the report of Mr. Champion. It was when considering this particular recommendation of the Retrenchment Committee that the Government went into the whole question again and as a result of the consultations and deliberations they had in that connexion the Government Order of September 1933 was passed. I may at once assure the hon. Members who represent

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the minorities that nothing new or startling was contemplated or undertaken at the time this Government Order was passed. The main point that was sought to be emphasized by this Government Order was that local bodies who were called upon to formulate schemes in accordance with the report of Mr. Champion had failed to do so and that it was necessary to find some other agency who would be amenable more to the control of the Government than the local bodies. If district educational officers were directed to prepare the schemes it would be possible for the Government to get schemes prepared within a reasonable length of time. It was also reported to the Government by their Educational Expert, the Director of Public Instruction, that it was not wise to exclude schools of any category from a comprehensive scheme that might be prepared, that the exclusion of aided schools altogether that was contemplated when the order of 1930 was passed was wrong from the educational point of view and it may therefore be made possible for efficient aided schools to come into the scheme if they liked. The Government Order of September 1933 deals with these two points and makes them clear. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, who started this debate and who, if he will permit me to observe, has made a careful study of the literature on the subject referred not only to the Champion Report and to the Government Orders that have been issued on that report from 1930 to 1933 but also to the instructions that have been issued. Both he and my hon. Friend, Mr. Thomas, who spoke on this subject have found in these documents enough evidence to show that it was not the intention of the Government to force any scheme on unwilling managers. I understood them to say that the safeguards provided in them were adequate but that the subordinate officials might not carry out the same policy.

“I could at once assure my hon. Friends that this fear has absolutely no foundation. Having been a Government official, and a distinguished Government official too, all his life, I was somewhat surprised that my hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, should have shared with others this distrust of Government servants. He will certainly realize that in no system of administration would it be possible to remove Government servants altogether out of the picture, and to allow him no part whatsoever in the administration. But if, as I said, he has studied these various documents carefully, he need not have any fear that the mischief, if any was done by a subordinate official, would filter through all the various stages through which a scheme has to go and pollute the very top. My hon. Friend, Mr. Thomas, who as I said, admitted the existence of adequate safeguards, only wanted the assurance that the interpretation of them will be liberal. I can assure him that, both in letter and in spirit, what is contained in these various documents will certainly be followed by Government in implementing any scheme of consolidation and concentration that might come up to them. My hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, doubted whether the Government Order of 1929 which was passed with special reference to Roman Catholic schools in his district would in any manner be affected by the present Government Order. I can tell him, Sir, that it was never the intention of the

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Government in any manner to modify, much less to cancel, the Government Order of 1929. That order only commended to the District Educational Council of South Kanara a certain principle with regard to the grant of recognition and aid to Roman Catholic schools in that district. The reasons which prompted the Government to issue that order apply, it seems to me, with as much force now as they did in the year 1929. I cannot, therefore, find any reason why my hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, should entertain the fear that the Government Order of 1929 would in any manner be interfered with.

“ My hon. Friend, Mr. Sreshta, also mentioned that both in the Champion Report and also in the instructions to which he referred, it has been mentioned that the participation of any aided, and particularly any denominational, agency in a scheme of amalgamation and concentration depends on its own willingness to join such a scheme. I am in entire agreement with him in his reading of these documents in that manner. In fact, it is perfectly clear from the instructions that have been issued that, when any scheme is under preparation in any particular area, it is open to an educational agency like the Roman Catholic Mission of whom my hon. Friend was speaking, to do one of three things with regard to their well established schools. It is open to them to say that they decide to keep out of the scheme altogether. It is also equally open to them to say that they unconditionally join the scheme that is under preparation and thirdly it is open to them to say that they shall join the scheme under certain conditions that they prescribe. If I am right in my recollection, my hon. Friend particularly referred to this third contingency, that conditions which may be necessary to safeguard the interests of Roman Catholic institutions, when they are amalgamated in any scheme, ought to be laid down and ought to be respected. That, as I said, is one of the three possibilities under which an agency like the one for which my hon. Friend has been speaking can join a scheme. So, what I want now to make perfectly clear is that so far as such agencies are concerned, the Government have no intention at present, or so far as I can speak for the future, even in the future, of enforcing any scheme of amalgamation at the point of the bayonet. In fact, the fear of the Government was that if any such course was attempted, the result will be a complete breakdown of the whole scheme. It was therefore their intention to move very cautiously in the matter. Those hon. Members of the House who have read the Champion Report would have seen that Mr. Champion himself has realized the enormity of the difficulties that will have to be overcome before introducing his scheme. He has stated that the existing state of things may be deplored; but that it is impossible to ignore them or to deny them and to refuse to take account of them. So, his recommendation itself is that schemes must take into account the existing state of things with regard to the need for separate schools for the depressed and other similar communities until, in course of time, the need for them has ceased to exist. Under these circumstances, all that Mr. Champion wants is that we must make a move. He does not want schemes of amalgamation to be introduced immediately or simultaneously

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everywhere. All that he claims and all that the Government are asking for is that a fair trial ought to be given to this scheme—a trial which it has not been given at all though it is now nearly more than three years since the scheme itself was adumbrated. That being the state of mind in which the Government have launched upon this somewhat intensive plan of having schemes formulated, I do not think any representatives of the minority communities, be they Roman Catholics or Protestants, Muslims or Depressed Classes, need entertain any fear that their educational interests anywhere will be sacrificed for the sake of experimenting on a scheme of doubtful efficiency or doubtful prospects of success.

“ My hon. Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, speaking from our side of the House, and as one of the most prominent members of our party, has subjected the scheme to a very severe criticism from the point of view of the constituency that he represents. If I may be permitted to make that observation, his criticism is all the more valuable on that account, because it could not be said, as it might sometimes be said of the criticism of the Opposition, that he was opposing for the sake of opposition. He must have spoken, I am sure, from a feeling of conviction that there is something about this scheme which required to be cleared up by me. I am sorry, Sir, at the time I spoke in reply to the general discussion, I did not make my position more definite. In fact, I did not realize, until my hon. Friend, Mr. Pannirselvam, pointed out to me yesterday evening, that there was any vagueness about the statement that I made. I expected my hon. Friend to read my statement along with the report and the other relevant documents. Perhaps, if read with them, my statement could not be considered as vague as my hon. Friend considers it to be. But, I think, I have made my position more definite, at any rate, now.

“ One matter to which he made special reference might perhaps be replied to by me now. He said that the Government Order of 1933 did not mention that the scheme will be examined by the Government in all its aspects. Though, no doubt, the passage which he read from the Government Order, when interpreted with the same strictness as the words of a Statutory enactment, might bear that narrow interpretation, I can assure him, Sir—and I hope he will take my assurance—that it was never the intention of the Government that their examination of the schemes submitted to them must be confined only to the financial aspect of it. If there is any lacuna in the Government Order I hope what I have said now will satisfy my hon. Friend.

“ My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, the Leader of the Opposition, was perhaps a little bit unjust to those members of the minority communities (A voice: ‘Hear, hear’) who criticized the scheme and spoke from their respective points of view. If I understood Mr. Pannirselvam right and also Mr. Sreshta, they did not claim, as Dr. Subbarayan seems to think, that State funds should be used for the purpose of establishing schools catering specially for Roman Catholic pupils.

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Their request, as I have understood it, was a more moderate one; they only say wherever we have schools which are the most suitable ones for our pupils, wherever we have a system of education which alone will be acceptable to us, don't disturb them; leave them alone. That, I understood, was the request made by the hon. Members who represent the Roman Catholic community and the other minority communities. Viewed in that light, I do not think the request of those hon. Members is open to any such serious objection as Dr. Subbarayan has raised against it. I might in this connexion mention that I am in entire agreement with the Christian representatives in this House who have said that the public of this country are under a deep debt of gratitude to missionaries and mission institutions for the excellent work they have done in this country: we could justly be accused of being ungrateful if we do not give them the credit which they so richly deserve. And I do not also think that my hon. Friend, Mr. Srinivasan, meant to say anything to the contrary. I am afraid more has been imputed to him than he really intended. I understood my friend only to say that in the matter of distribution of Government subsidies between the various classes of schools partiality was often shown to the missionary schools, and that they got the lion's share of the money available to the disadvantage of other schools. That is quite a different proposition.

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“ What I have said with regard to the Roman Catholic institutions applies more or less equally to institutions which cater specially for other minority communities as well. I have already quoted from the Champion's Report, and I shall mention it once again for the purpose of showing that until conditions improve and the need for such separate schools ceases to exist, until caste intolerance and similar other causes which are now working against the amalgamation of the various communities together—so long as these conditions remain, so long will the need for these separate schools continue to exist. At the same time, I wish to remind my hon. Friends representing the Depressed Classes, that this is not an ideal state of things but must only be temporary and that the efforts of the community itself and of the Government and of all those who are interested in their uplift must be directed mainly towards the removal of those disabilities, which are making such amalgamation difficult and almost impossible. And I can assure those classes that in such efforts I shall be second to none in helping them to reach the ideal.

“ Action has already been taken with regard to the enforcement of the Government Orders compelling the admission of Depressed Class pupils into all schools. My hon. Friend, Dr. Subbarayan, referred to it. I know that he, in his day, was very anxious to proceed quickly with regard to this piece of reform, and he also said, it must be said in fairness to him, that I am pursuing the same policy. Well, I can assure him that I am pursuing the same policy with as much enthusiasm as himself, if not more. I hope it will be possible to devise even more effective measures than we have at present to enforce the admission of

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Depressed Class pupils into schools under public and other managements. While I say that our efforts must be mainly directed towards achieving this end, at the same time, I realize the difficulties that at present exist in some areas with regard to their admission into schools other than separate schools.

“ My friend, Mr. Swami Sahajanandam, made a very eloquent, though a brief, appeal that the interests of their educational institutions should receive every protection at the hands of the Government. As he himself was pleased to mention, Government have been doing their best in this matter; and I can assure him that Government will continue to do whatever is possible within the limited financial resources available to them to promote the education of the Depressed Classes in this Presidency. He has himself been doing a great deal of disinterested educational work (Mr. V. T. Arasu: ‘Hear, hear’) on behalf of his community, and I am sure no Government can fail to recognize that such valuable work as he does entitles him to further support to continue his endeavours.

“ Before I finish this subject, I wish to refer to the suggestion that the hon. Mr. Sreshta made that a committee may be appointed to examine the schemes. Two other hon. Members also referred to that subject. Hon. Mr. Pannirselvam, as I understood him, was not in favour of a Provincial committee. He was inclined to suggest regional committees for every district or group of districts. While another Christian representative who spoke on this matter, hon. Member, Mr. Thomas, was definitely opposed to the formation of any such committee. He said local conditions in the district vary so largely that a central committee at the headquarters of the Presidency is not likely to be of any help to the Government. So what he recommended was that the district educational councils, who are expected to advise on the schemes put up before them, should be asked to examine the schemes very carefully, and their views on the matter ought to be respected by the Government. Even without any special plea in that behalf by my hon. friend, Mr. Daniel Thomas, when the district educational councils consider schemes placed before them seriously, and put forward their views, it is certainly the duty of the Government to give to such views the best possible consideration. I may also mention here that my friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, when he said that two months’ time were allowed for district educational councils and local boards to consider the schemes, was not quite right.”

MR. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—“ I said that there should be four months’ time for each of those bodies and not two months’ time for each of them as at present.”

THE HON. DIWAN BAHADUR S. KUMARASWAMI REDDIYAR:—“ I do not think my hon. friend is right. If within the period of four months allowed they are not able to come to any deliberate conclusion, then I must only say that these bodies do not deserve to continue. So there will be a fairly long period of time within which they could elicit public opinion and within which time all the interests affected would

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have an opportunity of making their representations. I am sure such an opinion, which is the result of this process of consultation and deliberation will be of great value; and even after these processes there will be a further scrutiny of them by the Director of Public Instruction and then only come the final orders of the Government.

“My friend, Mr. Sreshta, referred to certain points in connexion with the Connemara Public Library. The cut motion, of which he has given notice, refers only to the extension of the hours, during which the library is kept open at present. This question was examined once before, and though generally speaking there is no objection to keep it open for a longer time than at present, yet the additional cost thereby involved stands in the way. The estimate given by the Principal Librarian is that three more clerks and three more peons would be required; and the cost on account of additional lighting is another extra item of expenditure. It is not possible to incur all this additional recurring expenditure now. I can assure my hon. friend, that while on grounds of merit there may be enough to support his proposal, on grounds of finance I cannot hold out any hope of its immediate acceptance. He referred to two other points about which he did not give me previous notice, and which, therefore, I had no opportunity of examining. However, I shall have them examined and do whatever is possible.

“The Hon. the President warns me that my time is up, and so though I would have gladly replied to the several points mentioned by other hon. Members of this House, it is a matter of deep regret to me that I am not able to do so. So, my hon. friend, Sir Patro, will forgive me if I am not in a position to answer in any detail the series of questions that he has put to me. Schemes of compulsion do necessarily involve as my hon. friend knows the imposition of additional taxation. So municipal councils and local bodies have been very reluctant to introduce schemes of compulsory elementary education. I must, however, join with him in the tribute he has paid to two hon. Members of this House, who are chairmen of municipal councils, Mr. Bhanoji Rao and Mr. Ratnasabhapati Mudaliyar, who have had the courage to introduce in their municipal areas schemes of compulsion. I only hope that other municipal council chairmen would emulate the example of these worthy gentlemen and introduce schemes of compulsion within their respective areas. As hon. Sir Patro himself observed the proposal to amend the Elementary Education Act has been under consideration from his time no doubt; (Laughter) but nothing was done during his time nor during the time of my friend Dr. Subbarayan (Laughter) and so I have taken up the question and I hope I shall not be able to have the same sad tale to tell as my hon. predecessors. One of the provisions in that Bill would be for the Government to take power to introduce compulsory education in areas which they consider would be suitable for that purpose, and the district educational councils also will be empowered to introduce such schemes; and I think that would facilitate the introduction of compulsory elementary education in a larger measure than at present. I hope that what I have said will

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satisfy the hon. Members who represent the Christian community and other communities that the scheme will not be rushed through, or forced down the throats of unwilling people, and that their fears are unfounded."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" Mr. President, Sir, we the Members of the minority communities and others affected by this scheme are very thankful to the Hon. Minister for the sympathetic assurances he has given. From the remarks made by several hon. Members it is plain that this question of concentration should be examined from various angles, as otherwise it may present difficulties in its actual working. We are only anxious that all interests should be considered in the scheme. That is why I suggested the appointment of a committee, whether regional or central or both."

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" I may tell the hon. Member that there is no time now to make a long speech."

* Mr. M. S. SRESHTA:—" I cannot but refer to the outburst of Dr. Subbarayan. I am surprised that after the several Round Table Conferences and the publication of the White Paper and the assurances given to minorities, Dr. Subbarayan should endeavour now to sweep them away. Sir, if his views are to prevail, there will be the tyranny of the majority. (Mr. V. T. Arasu: 'No, no, if safeguards are given there will be the tyranny of the minorities.') I cannot understand how there can be tyranny of the minorities in any case. *Noblesse oblige* I wish to lodge my emphatic protest against the remarks of my hon. friend Dr. Subbarayan.

" I beg to withdraw my cut motion."

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—" The question is that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,80,42,500 under Demand XVII—Education—Transferred."

The Demand was carried and the Grant was made.

DEMAND XVIII—EDUCATION—RESERVED (EUROPEAN).

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—" On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor, I beg to move— 12-30
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'that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,49,200 under Demand XVIII—Education—Reserved (European).'"

* Mr. P. V. KRISHNAYYA CHOUDARI:—" I beg to move—

'that the allotment of Rs. 6,49,200 for Education—Reserved (European), be reduced by Rs. 100.'

" The object of my moving this cut motion is to discuss policy. Mr. President, Sir, I do not wish to take much of the time of the House. I request the Hon. Member in charge to consider whether he should not give more liberal grants for aided convent schools that are started on convent lines by private management other than European management."

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“ Another point is that the several Indian students who are studying in European schools are not getting scholarships, but only the European students. So I urge that Government may be pleased to give scholarships to Indian students studying in European schools.

“ With these few words, I move the cut motion standing in my name.”

* The Hon. Sir MAHOMED USMAN:—“ My hon. friend, Mr. Krishnayya Choudari, wanted that we should give more liberal grants to other than European institutions. That is a matter for the Hon. the Minister for Education to deal with.

“ As for the other suggestion, that more scholarships should be given to Indian pupils studying in European schools, I think it is a matter for philanthropic Indians to institute more scholarships. I do not think the Government can do anything in this direction.

“ I have nothing more to reply.”

The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

The Demand was put and carried and the Grant made.

DEMAND XIX—MEDICAL—RESERVED AND TRANSFERRED.

* The Hon. the RAJA OF BOBBILI:—“ On the recommendation of His Excellency the Governor I beg to move—

‘ that Government be granted a sum not exceeding Rs. 85,07,500 under Demand XIX—Medical—Reserved and Transferred ’.”

* Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGAM CHETTIYAR:—“ Sir, I move—

‘ to reduce the allotment of Rs. 11,200 for Medical Establishments—Superintendence—Pay of officers by Rs. 100.’

“ Sir, with regard to medical administration we have been putting forward several suggestions for improvement. But I fear the policy of the Government remains the same and it has not advanced very much.

“ Sir, one point that we have been urging is that a very large expenditure is being incurred on buildings. While we want comfortable buildings, we do not want that so much amount should be spent on buildings. For instance, for a district hospital they spend something like 20 lakhs of rupees. In a country like India such a heavy cost on buildings is too high and out of all proportion to the capacity of the people. Another result of this huge expenditure on buildings is that money provided for in the Budget to particular heads being limited expenditure on construction of buildings at a particular place, restricts the extension of medical relief to places which are not having such relief now. Instead of spending 20 lakhs in one particular place, we can have a larger number of better equipped hospitals in a larger number of places. The Department of Public Works system which incurs a heavy expenditure on buildings should be looked into. It is not only with reference to hospitals but also with reference to every sort of building that the expenditure incurred by the Public Works

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Department seems to be very high. At one time I came across a Public Works Department estimate with regard to a school building in a small village. I believe it came to about Rs. 9,000 for a building in a small village where the number of students could not be expected to be more than 80 or 85. It is not possible for a poor country like India to provide for buildings on such a costly scale. So, I would ask the Hon. Minister to examine this aspect of the matter, and see whether the cost of our buildings cannot be reduced.

“ With reference to the cost of administration, I made another suggestion here some time back and that was the training of Indian girls as nurses and utilizing them in larger numbers so that the cost under this head might be reduced and also a larger number of nurses might be employed in the hospitals. At the present moment the hospitals are very ill-equipped with reference to nursing. There are only very few nurses but the cost under this head is very high, because most of these nurses are Europeans and probably trained in Europe and we have to pay them very heavily for their service.

“ The question of co-ordinating Indian medicine and allopathic medicine is another matter which the Government may consider. In recent years a large number of Ayurvedic and Siddha institutions have come into existence and they merely serve to give medicine as contrasted with doing surgical operations. It is for the Government to consider whether it is not possible to have at a particular place one Allopathic hospital and two or three Ayurvedic dispensaries side by side, so that in matters of surgery the people may go to the Allopathic hospital and in matters of taking medicine only they may choose whichever they like. A system of co-ordination may probably be helpful to the institutions we have already got. So it is necessary that a proper survey ought to be made with regard to the requirements by way of medicine both in rural dispensaries and also in Ayurvedic and other institutions which have come into existence recently with the help given both by the Government and the local bodies. If a proper survey is made and some sort of arrangement is come to so that practically every village is served by one or other of these institutions, we would have gained a great deal. Probably to give effect to such a scheme at once may not be possible because it would involve a lot of expenditure. Even if small resources are available, if it is used in the way in which they can do the work most satisfactorily and if the system of rendering medical help is such as to make it available to as many people as possible, we would have gained by that arrangement. I would like the Hon. Minister to look into this matter and see that proper arrangements are made.

“ I would only add that the several child-welfare schemes that are working in the Province also require some sort of supervision and help. They have grown in a haphazard manner because they owe their existence to voluntary efforts and voluntary contributions, and so they differ from place to place. At the same time it cannot be said that

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they are doing the best they can. So if some arrangement can be made for the purpose of seeing what is really being done by these agencies in villages or in towns wherever they exist and if some sort of help and supervision is provided for the working of these institutions, probably we would be helping to a large extent the cause of maternity and child welfare and counteracting child mortality. These are matters which I hope the Hon. Minister will look into."

* Mr. V. T. ARASU:—"Mr. President, a perusal of the Budget Estimates for 1934-35 goes to show that there is an increased allotment under this head, viz., Medical—Reserved and Transferred. The increase amounts to as much as 4.5 lakhs. This ought not to lead us into the belief that there is going to be a commensurate increase in the measure of relief that is going to be given to the people at large. Out of 4.5 lakhs increased allotment for medical relief we find in the Budget Estimates, I find that only about 2 lakhs are proposed to be spent for medical relief as such by way of increasing the equipment in the X-ray institute of the General Hospital, and for the purpose of buying radium for the same institute. Barring that, I find that about 2.5 lakhs are proposed to be spent for additional emoluments to the staff employed by this department and for increase in the number of staff employed in this hospital and dispensaries. We do not at all find any provision made for increase in the number of hospitals and dispensaries or increase in the number of rural dispensaries. The number of hospitals and dispensaries in this Presidency remains what it was some four or five years ago. In the year 1930-31 the number of dispensaries and hospitals throughout the Presidency stood at the figure of 1,337 and even at the end of 1933 we do not find any considerable increase in that number.

12-45 p.m. "The number of beds in these hospitals and dispensaries has not increased either. It is disappointing to find that the provision in the Budget under this head has not been increased in order to give an increased measure of relief to the people at large. It is a curious phenomenon that in spite of the fact that we have been employing larger numbers year after year of what are known as honorary officers, the expenditure under the head of establishment has not gone down, but has on the other hand been increasing. In 1930-31 it was about Rs. 9 lakhs and now it has gone up to Rs. 10.3 lakhs. It is strange that although there has been no increase either in the number of medical institutions or in the number of beds in those institutions, and though we have been manning our hospitals with a large number of honorary medical officers, the cost of establishment has not gone down. If as a result of the employment of honorary officers we are not going to cut down the cost of establishment, I can find no use for the employment of these honorary officers. In these hard times, one would have expected that the number of new appointments would be as few as possible. But in the Part II schemes, provision has been made for the employment of additional staff for the surgical block of the General Hospital, for the Rayapuram Hospital and for other hospitals in the

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mufassal. With regard to the General Hospital, I ask, Sir, what is the exact need for this additional staff? About six or seven months ago, when it was suggested to the Government and the Surgeon-General that a certain number of honorary officers might be appointed to man the new surgical block of the General Hospital, it was pointed out that there were already too many officers without work and that there was no need to recruit more honorary officers to man the surgical block. But now, the Government have come forward and asked the Council for a certain sum for appointing additional staff for the new surgical block and the out-patient department of the General Hospital and for other medical institutions. I ask, Sir, whether it is not possible for the Government to requisition the services of independent medical practitioners as honorary officers for these medical institutions? I can assure the Government that there are only too many members of the independent medical profession who are willing to serve in these hospitals as honorary officers and I have no doubt that they will prove to be efficient officers both as physicians and surgeons. By utilizing their services, this additional expenditure may be avoided.

“ There is also another provision for the appointment of additional staff for the professor of Medical Jurisprudence in the Medical College. Two or three years ago, when the Government came before this Council and asked for a special grant for the appointment of a professor of Medical Jurisprudence, they said that the appointment of a single professor would effect economy in the department as he would consolidate the work of several other departments. Now the Government are asking for additional establishment to help this professor. Thus, Mr. President, the Government seem to be meandering without any definite policy. At one stage they seem to be bent on effecting retrenchment and cutting down expenditure, and at another stage they come forward and ask for more money for the appointment of additional staff under the same head.

“ In the Budget Estimates, we find a large number of Civil Assistant Surgeons shown as reserve. No doubt there should be a certain number of reserve officers whose services can be requisitioned at extraordinary times such as when a large number of officers go on leave. But I suggest that the number shown as reserve is excessive and the services of at least 50 per cent of these can be dispensed with.

“ I should like to make a few remarks regarding hospitals and dispensaries in this Presidency. As has been rightly pointed out by the hon. Member from Coimbatore, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, we are spending unduly large sums of money on these hospital buildings. I have pointed out on more than one occasion that these hospitals do not require marble floorings and glazed tiled walls. But I am very sorry to note that whenever new hospitals are put up, the floors are covered with marble, with Italian marble, in some cases, and the walls decorated with coloured tiles. I ask, Sir, whether it is necessary to build these hospitals at such great cost. I submit that it is a sheer waste to decorate the hospitals in that manner. I join with the

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hon. Member, Mr. Ramalingam Chettiyar, in seriously suggesting to Government that they should cut down their expenditure on these buildings. What is wanted for these hospitals and dispensaries is a plain simple building with good ventilation and a lot of open space all round.

“As regards the number of beds in these hospitals, the time has come when the Government should take up this question seriously. In these days of financial stringency, it will not be possible to increase the number of beds, but I ask whether it is not possible at least to make all these beds that are there available to the people who really need medical relief. What I mean by saying so is this. When one goes into some of these hospitals, one finds a large number of chronic patients; and what these want is not medical relief but food. At least 25 to 30 per cent of the patients in the General Hospital are chronic patients whom no amount of medicine will cure. All that they want is some shelter and some food. I ask whether it is not advisable to transfer these chronic patients to a choultry and release the beds occupied by such persons and make them available to patients who really need medical attention. If this is done, the cost of running the hospital also will come down considerably. At present the people who are really in need of medical attention are sometimes denied admission into the hospital, because the beds there are full all the time.

“In this connexion, I should like to make one minor suggestion regarding the number of beds in the hospital attached to the School of Indian Medicine. There are about 200 students undergoing training there, but there are only 60 beds in the hospital. I am only speaking from memory. I cannot understand how these 200 students can get clinical training out of these 60 beds. With the existing accommodation and at a small additional cost, the number of beds can be increased and I suggest to the Government that they should do so immediately.

“As regards the staffing of these medical colleges and schools in the Presidency, I have on more than one occasion pointed out the need for staffing the Vizagapatam Medical College with first rate men. The so-called first rate men are all concentrated in Madras; they have become permanent fixtures here for one reason or other, and they are not at all transferred, with the result that the Vizagapatam Medical College is entirely neglected. On account of the fact that first rate men are not posted there, that College does not attract Andhra students whom it is intended to serve. The Andhra students are flocking to the Madras Medical College and therefore there must be something wrong with the Vizagapatam Medical College; and I suggest to the Government that they should take up this matter and transfer at least some of these first rate officers in Madras to the Vizagapatam Medical College. From another point of view also it is desirable that these officers should be subject to periodical transfer. I find that certain favoured officers have been in Madras from time immemorial. They

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have made the Presidency Headquarters Hospitals their patrimony as it were, and they have been there ever since they entered the medical service. This has got a demoralizing effect. Therefore from that point of view also, it is essential that they should be transferred and I suggest that they may be transferred to Vizagapatam. There is also another reason. As is well known, Madras being the headquarters of the Presidency, there are immense opportunities for medical officers to gain firsthand knowledge of the latest developments in their science. Therefore this opportunity should be given to officers serving in the districts also. They should be transferred to Madras at least for a short time so that they may increase their knowledge and be more useful to the patients in the mufassal when they go back there.

“Sir, I was speaking about schools and colleges and in this connexion I should like to make one remark about the Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women. I hear the Government are considering a proposal to put up a permanent building for this school. I seriously ask, Sir, whether the Government are still of the opinion that it is not desirable to educate boys and girls together in one and the same medical school. The Hon. Minister said last year in reply to a debate on an identical motion that the time had not come when boys and girls could be allowed to read together in the same school. I should like respectfully to point out that the feeling now is the other way round. Whatever may have been the feeling in the matter years ago, the feeling at present is that opportunity should be given, at any rate in the case of medical education, for boys and girls to come together and undergo specialized training, as they do in the Medical College. It is proposed, I understand, to put up a costly building to house this Lady Willingdon Medical School. Even if it is found that these girls are not prepared to go to the Rayapuram Medical School and undergo training there along with boys, is it not possible for the Government to devise some other step? The estimate for the building comes to over Rs. 15 lakhs and the annual expenditure over this institution amounts to about Rs. 50,000. I suggest, Sir, that this Rs. 15 lakhs may be invested in some Government security or Government bond.

“If that sum of Rs. 15 lakhs is invested, even at the present low 1 p.m. rate of interest, the Government would get a return of about Rs. 80,000 per annum. I ask whether this Rs. 80,000 cannot be utilized by the Government for educating the girls in the Medical School for Women at Vellore which is an institution recognized by the Government by offering them scholarships. If girls are not prepared to read along with boys in the Rayapuram Medical School, is it not possible for the Government to ask these girls to go and undergo training in the Medical School at Vellore, which is an institution set apart exclusively for women. In that way medical education can be imparted to girls in this Presidency. If you offer a scholarship of Rs. 75 or Rs. 100, for girls, you will find that hundreds of girls will come forward to get medical education. In this way Government can get over

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the initial cost of putting up a building, and the additional recurring expenditure on that institution. I ask whether the medical education that is now imparted to girls in the Willingdon Medical Schools is of the right type. There is no hospital attached to that medical school. The education they receive there is absolutely nothing. When girls are sent out of that school, they are found to be good for nothing; that is the experience of many people. The staff employed in that school are also not up to the mark. Therefore I would suggest that Government need no longer waste their money for running that institution. They would do well to close that institution and send some of the girls to the Rayapuram Medical School, and the others to the Vellore Medical School for Women.

“ Lastly I would like to repeat what I have been always saying. It is high time that the Government should put an end to the privilege now given to medical officers in the service of the Government, of having private practice. Whatever justification there may have been in the past for the medical officers employed in this department enjoying the privilege of private practice—this was given them in the years gone by, because there was then a dearth for Allopathic medical practitioners—every hon. Member of the House would agree with me that we have reached a stage when we have a sufficiently large number of Allopathic practitioners, in this Presidency now, who are not in the service of the Government. In certain parts, we can even say that the supply is greater than the demand. Therefore, is it not time, I ask, that the Government should revise their views and put an end to this privilege which the medical officers under Government are now enjoying. I have on more than one occasion spoken about the ways in which this privilege is being abused. Several hon. Members have pointed out to the Government on more than one occasion how this privilege is being abused by practically every Government medical officer, from the highest to the lowest. I need not repeat it here and now. In view of the fact that there is a large number of private medical practitioners, I submit that the Government should put a ban on this privilege and thereby purge the department of the abuses.

“ Just one word about the office of the Registrar of the Medical Council. The Government are well aware how this office has been working and how they have been swindled of large sums of money. I believe as a result of that, there has been a change in the Registrar of the Medical Council. Even then I do not know if the office is turning out useful work. There is still considerable delay in the publication of the list of the registered medical practitioners. The Government are enjoined by statute to publish the list of registered medical practitioners every year; that list is not at all published in time, by the end of the year.

“ Let me close by once again appealing to the Government to put an end to the privilege of private practice which Government medical officers are now enjoying.”

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* Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—" Mr. President, Sir, I would like to address myself first to the question which I think is a very important one, namely, medical education in this Presidency. I am not really in a position to understand why it is that the Government have two Allopathic systems of medical education, I mean the medical colleges and the medical schools. If the education given in the medical schools is not so good as that given in the medical colleges, I think that the medical schools should not exist. If the education given in the medical school is as good as that given in the medical college, even then I think that the medical schools ought to go; in either case, there is no necessity for the medical schools. There was a time years ago when probably people with high preliminary educational qualifications were not forthcoming in larger numbers to join the medical colleges. Therefore there was probably necessity for the Government having these medical schools. Those days are gone. Now graduates and others who have passed the Intermediate Examination in Arts, and who are eligible to get entrance into the medical college are plenty in number, though the limitation seems to be in regard to the accommodation in the medical colleges. Secondly the course in the medical colleges and in the medical schools is five years in either case. Therefore I see absolutely no reason why these two separate systems should exist. Lives of people are in the hands of doctors and it is to the interest of the country to see that the best medical education is given to them. If one institution is inferior to the other, the inferior institution must go. There is another reason also why the medical schools should be abolished. The very existence of two systems of education gives an impression to the public that the people trained in the medical college are better than those trained in the medical school. But in actual practice, people trained in the medical schools are found in good many cases to be equal, if not superior, to those trained in the medical colleges. The idea of the Government seems to be that those who are trained in the medical schools could be satisfied with less salaries than those who are trained in the medical colleges. This is a great stumbling block in the way of getting efficient and satisfactory service from people trained in the medical schools. There is always the feeling of resentment—it is a legitimate resentment—that people trained in the medical schools are considered by the Government to be an inferior lot, though in several instances they are found to be equally good. I think that the Government should seriously examine the necessity for maintaining two sorts of institutions; I hope the Government would decide in favour of abolishing the medical schools altogether and imparting education only in one sort of institutions.

" My friend, Mr. Arasu, did not say that he was in favour of the total abolition of the medical schools; though he was for abolition of medical school for girls. To come to the question of having a separate medical school for girls, I think it is unnecessary to do so at present. When ladies are taught in the medical college along with men, I

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personally cannot understand why the Government consider it necessary to have a separate medical school for women. As my friend suggested, if there are any ladies who are not willing to go to the medical school intended both for men and women, there is the Mission Institution in Vellore and they can be sent there. What is possible for the medical college must be possible with regard to the medical schools also.

“ One other point is probably on account of some evil advice tendered to the Government by the Committee on medical education, the number of people that can get entrance into the medical schools and colleges is very limited. I am one of those who believe that the number of doctors is absolutely inadequate for this country. Unhappily that Committee came to that conclusion of putting a restriction on the number of doctors having regard to the state of affairs in the city. I think almost all the people who examined this question had come from the city. They had absolutely no idea, I think, of the utter inadequacy of medical relief in the villages. Having had experience of the state of affairs in Madras City itself, having seen that there were more medical officers in the city than the required number, they perhaps thought that a large number of doctors turned out from the medical colleges and schools did not find employment. That is the reason why they said that more accommodation was not necessary in the medical colleges and schools. But really it is a case for more accommodation being provided for in the medical colleges. For, compared with Western countries, the number of doctors in this Presidency to serve its population, is very small. It may be true that doctors in Madras City may not be able to find employment in the city itself. But if a large number of doctors are turned out and if they do not get employment in towns, they will naturally go to the villages. In view of the necessity to turn out a large number of students from the medical schools and colleges, I have been pleading that medical education ought to be made free. I feel that if there are a large number of doctors, they will be helpful and useful to the people. At any rate I feel there is no justification at all for increasing the fee for medical students.

“ When I pleaded for the abolition of the medical schools, I had another object in view. The medical education given in Allopathic medical institutions is very costly, and you can encourage the Indian system of medicine. Then I would say you had better turn out more medical men from the Schools of Indian Medicine. It is my experience and it is the experience of many people that the Indian system of medicine is equally effective if not more effective. To give surgical aid, you can train students in the Western system of medicine. It is desirable that more physicians are trained in the Indian system of medicine. The Indian system of medicine is less costly than the other system. I do not think that the Government have given sufficient encouragement to the Indian School of Medicine. Comparatively

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larger sums of money are spent on the Allopathic system of medicine. This shows that they are showing step-motherly treatment to the Indian system of medicine. I think that more financial aid should be given not only to the Indian School of Medicine but to all the institutions which are teaching this system. If a large number of students are trained in the schools of Indian Medicine it would be better for the country, as most of them would settle down in villages.

“ There is one important point which I should like to impress on the Minister in charge of medical education. The one subject which is more and more studied in the western countries but which happens to be neglected in our medical education, is dietetics. No doubt a few lessons may be given in the ordinary course to the students on this subject, but there is no such separate subject included in the medical education. In the western countries, a number of doctors are making experiments in this matter of dietetics. In these days, when people are feeling that the world is being over populated, that the resources of the world are not enough and that therefore methods like birth-control ought to be resorted to in order to keep the people beyond want, when researches into this question have shown that by proper adjustment of the foodstuffs that we take in less than half of what we eat will be sufficient for affording comfortable existence. I think it is necessary that we should include this subject in the education now imparted to the students of the medical colleges and schools. 1-15 p.m.

“ Again, Sir, on the question of private practice, I agree with my friend, Mr. Arasu. I am one of those who think that we must gradually give up all individualistic ideas. I think that in course of time the Government should take the place of the private doctors in order to give medical relief to one and all, the poor and the rich. On that ground, I feel that more and more dispensaries should be run by the Government. This sort of allowing the doctors in Government service to have private practice, whatever the theoretical considerations may be, is really having an adverse effect. I believe that the Government doctors are paid amply and therefore there is no hardship if they are prevented altogether from resorting to any private practice; but it may be, that sometimes some people may find it a bit inconvenient if Government doctors who may be experts are not allowed to practice privately, because all people may not be willing to go to the Government hospitals. The best solution will be, I think, to provide some special accommodation in hospitals for the rich people who can afford to pay when they go to the Government hospitals, such as is being done even now in some headquarter hospitals. If that is done, I think there can be no inconvenience from the point of view of the public. The idea prevailing in the minds of some people like my friend, Mr. Arasu, is that if the Government doctors are altogether prohibited from having private practice, we would be giving greater employment to the private doctors, and we would be encouraging more people to take to the medical profession. I am not impressed with that argument. I think, Sir, the time has come when Government ought

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to take up this question of affording medical relief to one and all. In this connexion, Sir, I find there has not been much improvement in the way of affording medical relief in a greater measure in the rural parts. No doubt there has been some improvement, during the past few years; but probably owing to financial stringency, the provision for this purpose has not of late been quite adequate. I hope, Sir, the Government will see their way to improve the provision for this purpose.

“ Another matter which I am not tired of referring to is that of tenders—whether it be Public Works Department or Local Self-Government or Medical department. I really do not know what rules have been made with regard to the acceptance of tenders. I doubt whether the rules definitely lay down that only the lowest tender or the most favourable price should be accepted. That is a point, Sir, which I hope the Hon. the Minister will devote his attention to.

“ Coming now to the local advisory committee for headquarter hospitals, no doubt they may prove good institutions if worked on right lines. But to my knowledge these committees in the case of headquarter hospitals consist mainly of officials. The non-officials element is not at all adequately represented. They meet usually only once a year, that is my information. It is very desirable that there should be more meetings of these committees in order to consider very important questions connected with the hospitals.

“ In connexion with the question of affording of greater medical relief to the people, I hope the Hon. Minister would consider the question of taking up taluk headquarter hospitals. I do not think he ought to leave this question to the local boards, as their finances will not allow of their making adequate provision. I even think that in spite of the present financial stringency, the Government ought to take up this question at once, if necessary, by cutting short the subsidies they are now paying to local bodies, etc.

“ Turning to the question of admissions to the medical college, I am glad to find that last year arrangement was made to take in more people from the Ceded districts. That really gave a chance to the backward districts. There was a time, Sir, when it was difficult for candidates from the backward districts to get admission into the Medical College. I hope that Government will be pleased to give greater chances to these people. I say this because the doctors in the backward districts at present are mostly from other districts. If we can get people of our districts trained in the Medical College, when they do not find employment under Government, they will settle in the villages and thus help the people. From that point of view, I think, preference should be given to candidates coming from the backward districts.

“ Lastly, as regards the Vizagapatam Medical College, there was a complaint that in the research section, there were not many experts.

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So far as the teaching side goes, I believe there is not much complaint on account of the smallness in the number of students. As a matter of fact, I think, there are better opportunities in Vizagapatam than in Madras. It is a point to be investigated, whether some more experienced people cannot be sent to Vizagapatam and some of those who are already there cannot be taken to Madras."

IV.—THE MADRAS ESTATES LAND ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL— HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

* The Hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I have just received the following Message from His Excellency the Governor regarding the Madras Estates Land Act (Amending) Bill. The Message is this:

MESSAGE.

I have given my careful consideration to the reports of the discussions in the Legislative Council and the representations that have been made to me by deputations and otherwise in respect of the Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Bill, 1934. Although notice of the principal amendments regarding inamdars had been before the Council since January 1933, I am satisfied that inamdars did not anticipate that those amendments would be incorporated in the Bill. In view of the complexity of the question involved, which, in my opinion, requires further consideration by the Council, I think it should be dealt with in a separate Bill which will be introduced by the Government early in the next session of the Council. At the same time, I consider that inamdars should not be permitted to acquire occupancy rights after the 1st November 1933 and that all pending proceedings in eviction should be stayed for a period of two years from that date in view of the proposed legislation.

I accordingly return the parts of the Bill specified below to the Legislative Council under section 81-A (1) of the Government of India Act for its reconsideration together with the amendments appended hereto, which I recommend.

1. Clause 4 (2).
2. Clause 4 (4).
3. Clause 5—Explanation (2) to sub-section (1) of new section 6; and the figure ' (3) ' in explanation (3) to the same sub-section.
4. Clause 7—New sections 8 (1), (3) and (5).
5. Clause 86—New section 163-A (1) (a)—the word and figure ' Explanation (3). '
6. Clause 104.
7. Clause 127.

List of Amendments.

1. Clause 4 (2).—For this clause, *substitute* the following, namely:—
' (2) for sub-clause (d) of clause (2), the following sub-clause shall be substituted, namely:—
" (d) any village of which the land revenue without the kudiwaram has been granted in inam to a person not owning the kudiwaram thereof, provided that the grant has been made, confirmed or recognized by the British Government." '.